

## Class Q

The law permitting payment of Class Q allotments expires June 30 and has to be renewed to remain in force. It's having tough sledding in Congress right now. See Page 27.

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JUNE

# 130,000-Man Maneuver Is Set for Polk

By MONTE BOURJAILY Jr.

WASHINGTON.—Camp Polk will be reopened as a permanent post and will serve this fall as the site for the largest Army and joint Army-Air Force maneuver since War II.

## Category Renewals Detailed

WASHINGTON.—Officers who began serving a three-year voluntary (not obligated) category during 1954 may convert to the new active duty commitment before their categories expire, under a time-table announced by the Army in DA Circular 135-6.

Distribution of this circular and of AR 135-215 has made available operating details of the new active duty commitment plan for Reserve component officers announced in Army Times June 4.

Officers who began serving voluntary three-year categories since Jan. 1, 1955, will probably be able to convert to the new system, also. But the Army is not yet ready to issue a time-table under which applications to convert may be submitted.

THE CIRCULAR SAYS that requests for category renewals dated May 27, 1955, or later will be returned to the officer applying. This does not mean denial but that the officer should resubmit his request under the new AR. He will then be applying under the active duty commitment plan, which is in effect an indefinite category agreement.

Requests submitted before May 27 will be processed and honored. Categories so given will be convertible at a later date.

Any who want to serve out the full three years of their present category before converting may do so, even if the category expires in 1957 or 1958.

The regulation makes clear that all active duty commitments of Reserve component officers in effect expire as soon as they become eligible for the 1948 Army and Air Force Vitalization and Retirement Equalization Act Title II retirement (after 20 years' active federal service, at least 10 of which is commissioned).

But no officer will be retired until his records have been reviewed by a board. This board will select outstanding and key officers and

(See CATEGORY, Page 10)

The reopening will take place if property owners in a 10,000-plus square mile area join in an agreement between the Army and the state of Louisiana to make their land available.

Army engineers have begun to get "land use" permits. State officials are cooperating.

If the state and property owners will insure that a 7,000,000-acre area will be continuously available for maneuver purposes, Camp Polk will become the Army's maneuver headquarters in the United States.

Depending on the Army's success in getting land use rights, a total of more than 130,000 Army and Air Force troops will begin soon to move into Polk and the three air bases—Alexandria AFB, Lake Charles AFB and Barksdale AFB (Headquarters, 2d AF)—on the edges of the maneuver area.

Name of the joint maneuver, announced last February, is Exercise Sage Brush.

The Army will have the equivalent of a small field army in the maneuver — two corps, four divisions, an armored cavalry regiment and supporting combat and logistical troops. The Air Force will put a total of 54 tactical squadrons

(See POLK, Page 10)

## CHAPLAIN HONORED

## His Heritage: Valor



GEN. RIDGWAY (left) presents "Four Chaplains Award" to Chaplain Walsh during ceremonies at Fort Myer. He was also named "Chaplain of the Year."

FORT MYER, Va. — A fighting Catholic chaplain, 1st Lt. Cormac A. Walsh, whose valor earned him three Silver Stars and two Bronze Stars in Korea was presented this week with the "Four Chaplains Award for 1955" by Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway.

Lt. Walsh, son of a Boston fireman who died in a heroic attempt to rescue several persons trapped in a blazing factory, was also named "Chaplain of the Year" by the Chaplains' Branch of the Army.

The Four Chaplains Award is awarded annually by the District of Columbia Chapter, Reserve Officers Association. It is named for the chaplains — two Protestants, a Catholic and a Jew — who died heroically when the troopship *Dorchester* was torpedoed off Greenland in War II.

THE CITATION accompanying the award noted that Lt. Walsh, then chaplain of the 180th Inf., 45th Div., in Korea, "had risked his life repeatedly in helping to save the lives of many of the officers and men of his unit" in bitter fighting in the closing months of the Korean war.

Lt. Walsh, temporarily assigned to Fort Eustis, Va., was accompanied by his mother, Mrs. Mary A. Walsh, at the presentation. They later visited Arlington Cemetery where his brother, Marine Gunner Sgt. William G. Walsh, is buried. Sgt. Walsh received the Medal of Honor posthumously for valor at Iwo Jima during War II.

## 'Filler' Plan Is Firm

WASHINGTON.—The last draftees and officers having obligated Reserve tours to be released from active duty will be the first to be called back in, under the Army's new "emergency reinforcement plan."

The plan, which calls for the arbitrary assignment to Reserve units of all men who leave the Army with an eight-year term of obligated Reserve service, was first announced in Army Times last week.

It was indicated this week that, except for those men who took part in last year's six-state test of the plan, few reservists who were discharged before the first of this year will receive emergency reinforcement assignments as "fillers."

A total of 435,000 officers and men with an eight-year obligation will be tapped for the emergency reinforcement pool. Of these, 50,000 will be officers.

As a result of the plan, hundreds of Army Reserve, National Guard, and active Army units and installations will be at 115 percent of authorized strength for the first time.

This will be strictly a paper operation, however.

As the plan goes into effect, men will be notified that they are in a USAR control group (Emergency Reinforcements), as soon as their records are moved from the transfer station to the Military District headquarters of their home areas.

In filling up units to 115 percent (See FILLER, Page 10)

## OPPOSITION SPLIT

## Early House Action Seen on Survivor Pay

By MACON REED

WASHINGTON.—A last-minute move was under way this week in the Hardy committee of the House to tip the rates of widows' compensation more in favor of enlisted men.

### Quarters Bill Moves on Hill

WASHINGTON. — The House Armed Services Committee has approved the Army's request for a \$551,105,000 construction authorization, including nearly \$204 million for family housing, barracks and recreation buildings.

The committee sent the 1955 Military Public Works Bill to the House floor, with an increase of \$7,740,000 over the original Army request. This will go to a medical facility at Fort Jackson, S. C.

The Senate Armed Services Committee is holding hearings on the \$2.4 billion Defense bill.

plus 15 percent of the serviceman's basic pay. A proposed compromise would give \$115 plus 10 percent.

Carried out across the board, this new formula would boost the compensation of all enlisted widows, cut it for officer widows, especially those in higher grades. Applying the compromise to enlisted grades only would boost them, leave officer widow payments as proposed in the draft bill.

That is what the services were fighting for as the bill neared final form in committee.

TWO OTHER proposed changes under consideration by the committee are:

Allowing a larger income for dependent parents before rating them as non-dependent and putting them off the compensation rolls. The bill started cutting down on compensation, by a sliding scale, when parents' outside income gave the widow a flat \$100 a

## DA Retells Its Leave Policy

WASHINGTON. — The Army this week told commanders to emphasize to trainees that a man assigned overseas on completing 16 weeks' basic training would not get pre-embarkation leave if he had taken leave between completion of basic combat and the start of advanced individual training.

The reminders to commanders came in DA Cir 612-6.

The Army has received complaints, particularly from parents and wives of trainees, that the men weren't getting home before going overseas.

Present policy is to give leave after the first eight weeks' training instead of just before going overseas.

TO HELP THE CHILDREN

# Onkel Davis Hits the Big City

NEW YORK. — SFC Charles E. Davis, the MP who created his own international organization to care for German orphans, went to the big city this week to pep up his aid-to-children drive.

Davis, who recently was transferred from the 9th Inf. Division's 9th MP Co., in Germany, to Fort Knox, Ky., embarked on a publicity campaign to boost the amount of money and material aid being sent regularly to the German orphans. During his leave, he went to television studios, radio stations and press conferences. Stories about him appeared in New York City newspapers and went out over press association wires.

These stories described the activities of the 48-year-old military policeman who won the "Good Neighbor Award" sponsored by the American Weekend, a weekly Times publication in Europe. They told how Sgt. Davis collected toys, money and clothing for the residents of an orphanage at Geislingen, Germany. Later, his 9th MPs took over another orphanage when money and clothing started to pour in. One Pennsylvania businessman sent 1500 pairs of shoes. Other civilians sent blankets, coats, toys and equipment.

The job of distributing the gifts soon became so big that Davis had to set up a "Hands Across the Ocean" organization. Members of the 9th MPs formed a committee to keep the ball rolling. The committee got a monthly pledge of cash to keep the orphanages supplied, even after current personnel rotated to the States.

Sgt. Davis is continuing the campaign in the U.S. by enlisting the aid of prominent people. He went to a television studio this week to pose for pictures with comedian Phil Silvers, in hopes of getting his story into more publications. (While waiting for Silvers to finish acting in a television play, Davis became a volunteer technical adviser to a couple of actors who didn't know how to wear MP insignia and holsters. Silvers is filming a comedy series in which he plays the role of a "wise guy" sergeant in the 69th Div. at Fort Dix, N. J.)

Davis met with New York newspapermen this week and told them about the orphans, who call him "Onkel Davis." He described how children are brought through the Iron Curtain and placed in west German orphanages, and how some GIs are adopting German kids.

Davis plans to adopt a 16-year



ONE SANTA CLAUS tells another how to take care of the kids. SFC Charles E. Davis, who set up an organization that is taking care of hundreds of German orphans, gets a few pointers from Santa Claus, who works at North Pole, N.Y., a tourist attraction. SFC Davis was in New York during current leave to drum up more help for his German kids, who call him Onkel Davis. The 23-year Army veteran has been reassigned from the 9th Div. MPs in Europe to Fort Knox, Ky.

old boy named Ludwig Fleischhacker, who is now attending a machinist school in Germany. Davis has two children of his own — 15-year-old Donna Charleen and 25-year-old SFC Stirling Davis, who is assistant chief of the criminal investigation laboratory at Camp Gordon, Ga.

Davis has been in the Army for 23 years. He first became interested in the problem of orphanages when he was an MP with the 5th Inf. Div. at Indiantown Gap, Pa., where he ran into a poorly-equipped home for 106 Catholic children near Pottsville, Pa. Davis lined up police, veteran and social organizations and collected money and supplies. When he later was transferred to the 9th Div. in Ger-

many, he expanded his aid activities.

Davis says considerable help came from such newspapers as Army Times, Stars and Stripes and the American Weekend for giving publicity to the plight of the homeless children. But, as he reminded reporters at his New York press conference this week, the Bonn government furnishes only 60 cents a day for each child in the orphanages, and considerably more help is needed.

When he left Germany, Davis' aid campaign was taken over by M/Sgt. Verlon L. Raglan, who is running the European end of "Hands Across the Ocean" from Goeppingen. Davis is setting up

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# Lawmakers Ask Curbs On Insurance Phonies

WASHINGTON.—A Congressional group which has been looking into the sale of life insurance to military people stationed in Europe and in some states said this week it will propose curbs on insurance sales to correct abuses it has uncovered.

Chairman F. Edward Hebert (D., La.) of the Armed Services committee's investigations group said he will ask Congress to curtail the use of military allotments to pay commercial life insurance premiums.

The sub-committee found, he said, that many soldiers let their policies lapse after making one or

two payments. By doing so short of three years, he pointed out, they forfeited "extended insurance" protection.

Hebert said his group also would recommend that:

- No agent overseas be permitted to sell insurance unless he has had one year's experience at the job in the States.

- Companies and agents be licensed by individual states and territories before being allowed to sell insurance on military posts in those states or territories.

- The terms of all insurance policies be interpreted according to the laws of the state or residence of the service policy-holder.

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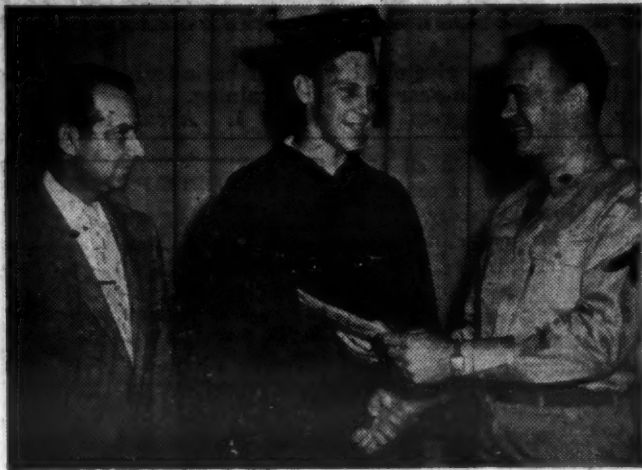
Scientific and Engineering Staff

## Hughes





## Scholarship Winner



CPL. GERALD DeLOY, right, chairman of the Army Chemical Center Enlisted Specialists' Scholarship Fund, presents the group's annual study award to Richard C. Reitz, Bel Air, Md., High School senior, while Bel Air Principal Howard B. Peters watches.

## Soldier-Scientists Sending Maryland Youth to College

EDGEWOOD, Md.—Enlisted men at the Army Chemical Center here will make it possible for a 1955 Bel Air (Md.) High School graduate to begin studying engineering this fall.

The Chemical Center is enlisted scientific and professional personnel, privates and privates first class with years of study in chemical, mechanical and electrical engineering, donated an \$875 scholarship.

One of the ESPP donors explained the reason for the scholarship: "All of us have had the advantage of good educations. Many of us hold master's degrees, and many have earned Ph.D.'s. We felt the least we could do to begin to repay the heavy debt we owe to our schools would be to make it possible for others to have a chance to go to school."

This year's scholarship was won by Richard G. Reitz of Bel Air, who plans to enter Drexel Institute of Technology to study electrical engineering. Reitz, an honor student and standout athlete, was selected over other applicants on

a basis of need and scholastic ability.

THIS IS THE third year that the 750 Chemical Center soldier-scientists have joined forces to lend a helping hand to a Harford County senior with the ability but not the means to get a college education.

The specialists, college-trained scientists assigned by the Army to research jobs at the Chemical Center, headquarters for the Chemical Corps research and development, conducted a fund-raising drive during April for the scholarship.

## Prize Winning Essay

FORT SAM HOUSTON — An essay titled "Dear Dad," written by PFC Frederick A. Abrams, of Svc. Btry., 55th FA Bn, Fort Sill, Okla., has been judged winner of the first place \$100 cash prize in the Fourth Army Enlistment and Reenlistment Contest.

## All-Army Talent Contest Ends As Finalists Perform at Dix

FORT DIX, N. J.—The All-Army Talent Contest finals were held here last week, and entertainers from the Military District of Washington and from the European Command.

Sgt. Lloyd E. J. Lindroth, Washington's swing harpist entry, won first place in the instrumental division with a medley of swing numbers. Another Washington entry, the "Rifle-Aires," Cpls. Richard S. Lindfors and John R. Lloyd, placed first in the group acts with a precision drill using Springfields.

The European entries placing first in their categories, were Cpl. Robert E. Meassells, who sang a Negro spiritual and PFC Paul A. Desmond, winner in the specialty act class with comic impressions.

FORT McPHERSON, GA., REPRESENTING Third Army, won three places in the talent finals. Pvt. James V. Cobb, Jr., placed second in vocal solo and Cpl. Kenneth R. Berry finished third in specialty act division. The post's group entry, brothers PFC Hugo and Rene Zucchini, were third with a trampoline act. The Zuchinis are sons of the Ringling Brothers aerial team, the "Flying Zuchinis."

First Army placed two finalists and one each was noted from Second, Fifth and Sixth Armies. Placing second in group acts, was Fort Dix's comedy team of Pvs. Morton D. Isacson and Murray A. Levine. The other First Army finalist, PFC Robert Sherman, from the New York Port of Embarkation, was third in the instrumental soloist division.

Fort Lee, Va.'s Pvt. Robert D. Ralph was Second Army's finalist, placing second in the instrumental soloist division. PFC Robert C. Floyd, from Fifth Army headquarters, in Chicago, placed third as a vocal soloist, and PFC Ivan S. Jensen, representing Sixth Army, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., was judged third in the specialty act category.

Winners received "Oscar" statuettes and runners-up were given plaques. Each contestant in the finals was to receive a certificate of achievement. Maj. Gen. John W. Harmony, commanding general, made the presentation to the winners and runners-up.

Post Theater No. Five was jammed to capacity for the talent finals. The entire production was

produced by post Special Services in conjunction with the Department of the Army.

TAKING PART IN the shows were the 173d Army Band, directed by CWO Benjamin R. Durant and the Fort Dix Band and chorus directed by CWO Alexander T. DiFronzo. Singer Eddie Fisher, who gained fame while serving in the Army, was a special guest.

The Division demonstration platoon presented a drill number. The National Anthem was sung by Pvt. Arnold M. Voketaitis. PFC George Kasserman acted as master of ceremonies.

Contest finalists, together with the band, chorus and demonstration platoon all appeared on Ed Sullivan's "Toast of the Town" television program 1st Sunday.

Judges for the All-Army Talent Contest finals were Percy Faith, musical director of Columbia Records; Hugo Winterhalter, musical director for Victor Records, and Dave Savage, assistant to the president at Guild films.

## New EC Chaplain

FORT BELVOIR, Va.—Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Sidney R. Crumpton has been assigned chief chaplain of the Engineer Center here. Chaplain Crumpton's last assignment was as post chaplain, Seoul Military Post, Korea.

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# New V A School Ruling Gives 'CD' Men Break

WASHINGTON. — Conditional discharges granted to servicemen for the purpose of changing their military status need not bar them from building up further entitlement to education and training under the Korea GI Bill, the Veterans Administration has ruled.

Instead, they may continue to accrue GI training time up to the end of the period they originally were obligated to serve—usually two years in the case of those who were drafted, and three years for those who enlisted.

The ruling also cleared up two other points—when men and women on active duty must begin their GI training, and when training must come to an end.

Korea GI training must start, VA ruled, within three years from the date a serviceman receives his first "unconditional" discharge or release after Jan. 31, 1955—a type that would allow him to return home to civilian life.

The training benefits stop eight years from the date of his first "unconditional" release from service, or by Jan. 31, 1965, whichever date comes earlier.

A LAW, enacted four months ago permits servicemen on active duty on Jan. 31, 1955, to earn GI training entitlement up to the date of their "first discharge or release from such service."

In its ruling, VA declared that "conditional" discharges should not serve to put an end to the accrual of GI training time. "Conditional" discharges usually are granted to permit a serviceman to accept a commission as an officer or warrant officer, or to reenlist in the regular active service. These discharges do not give him the right to leave the armed forces for civil life; therefore, they are "conditional," not "unconditional."

AS AN EXAMPLE of how servicemen may build up GI entitlement, VA cited the case of a man who entered service for a two-year period on Dec. 1, 1954. This week, he received a "conditional" discharge to accept a commission. Despite this discharge, he will continue to accrue GI training time up to Dec. 1, 1956, the end of his obligated two-year service period—even though he may stay on active duty longer.

Entitlement to education and training under the Korea GI Bill is figured at one and one-half times the length of allowable military service, up to a maximum of 36 months' training.

The serviceman who accrued entitlement during his two-year period, then, would be entitled to three full years of training—the maximum.

ALTHOUGH HE would stop accruing entitlement at the end of the two-year period he originally was obligated to serve, his starting deadline—three years from discharge or release—would not be measured from this point.

Instead, it would be measured from the date he received his first "unconditional" discharge or release. Assuming he received such a discharge on May 25, 1957, his

three-years-to-start would be computed from that date. Or, he would have to begin GI training by May 25, 1960, at latest.

And, since training must end eight years from discharge or by Jan. 31, 1965, whichever comes earlier, this veteran would not be permitted to train beyond the 1965 date. In his case, that is the date that would come first.

## Pennsylvania Extends War II Bonus Deadline

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Gov. Leader's recent signing of House Bill 733 extends to Dec. 31, 1956 the time limit to apply for Pennsylvania's bonus payment to War II veterans.

This marks the third time the original July 1, 1950 deadline has been extended.

Payments are \$10 for each month of stateside service, \$15 for foreign service between Dec. 7, 1941 and Sept. 2, 1945; up to a \$500 maximum. Persons on active duty Sept. 2, 1945 are allowed to count service prior to March 3, 1946.

The \$500 maximum is payable to next-of-kin of war dead; amount of veteran's bonus is payable to eligible survivors when death occurs after discharge. Eligible survivors may be unmarried widow, minor children, parents in that order.

Application forms are obtainable from the War II Veterans' Compensation Bureau, Harrisburg, Pa.

# Oversea Law Cases Going in File

WASHINGTON. — All services will keep a running record of cases in which people under military law in foreign countries are involved in criminal proceedings, the Defense Department said this week. In Directive No. 5510.5, it established a uniform reporting system

and named the Army as the responsible agency for keeping consolidated statistics.

Involved are military and civilian employees of the services and their dependents who are subject to foreign law under the status of forces agreement in NATO countries, or

are under Japanese law under the treaty with Japan.

Two kinds of reports will be kept: an individual case record which will be sent in whenever there is a change in status in a case, and a consolidated periodic report.

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